

I am writing to ask you to reject the petition 04-160 by the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) concerning their objection to satellite radio's attempt to provide local information for its customers. I am a young fan of all types of radio, both terrestrial and satellite. I am also a subscriber of XM Satellite Radio. My main issue with the NAB is that there are many ways that they could avoid having to be concerned about satellite radio's local content conflicting with traditional local radio's coverage. If they would encourage their members to improve their own services, including making local radio actually "local," then they wouldn't have to worry about competition from satellite broadcasters. Too many radio companies are cutting jobs and positions from the local radio stations to save money, while they spend more money on useless promotions or keep it for themselves. Today's local radio is much too impersonal and not catered to really entertain or inform the local listener. The two U.S.-based satellite radio companies are only trying to please their loyal listeners. By providing local information such as traffic and weather to their customers, they are only providing that much more useful content for their listeners. Paying for these services, we should only expect them to do this. If they didn't try to provide these services, they wouldn't really be doing their job. It's their obligation to provide us this info, just as it is traditional broadcasters' obligation to. It would be an absolute shame to lose this service. The NAB should realize that satellite radio is a new medium for providing both entertainment and information for the general public. Traditional radio and satellite radio can coexist, but the NAB seems afraid to let that happen. Please reject the Petition 04-160. Thank you so much for your time.